Rules governing Medical attendance and the levy of fees in the Government Medical Institutions

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I beg to announce that the rules governing medical attendance and the levy of fees in Government Medical Institutions have been issued. A copy of the same has been placed on the table. *(Appendix III.)*

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know under which section of the Standing Orders is this placed before the Council?

Mr. President: Government ordered that this should be placed before the Council.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* The point is this. With regard to this matter it was discussed in the Council and it is almost against the wish of the Council that the Government has passed orders. Under such circumstances, it is not a welcome affair so far as this is concerned. So we want to suggest that it need not be placed before the Council.

Mr. President: I think the hon'ble member is entirely wrong. The Council accepted the principle underlying the resolution saying that fees should be levied from well-to-do patients, but they had recommended that the rules issued must be approved by the Council. "Against the wishes of the Council" means "against the intention of the Council". Then the point is that it is not the usual practice anywhere for Government to get the prior approval of the Council for rules of that kind. Therefore, what we thought was to issue rules ourselves and then to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that these rules have been issued so that if the Council wants to make any changes they may suggest them. It is a courtsey shown to the Council just to draw their attention.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Can we discuss that matter now?

Mr. President: This is announced in view of the resolution that has been brought before this House that prior approval should be taken. I wanted to draw the attention of this Council to this. Otherwise it may go unnoticed.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* So we can suggest amendments to the rules—is that not the idea?

Mr. President: Certainly that is the idea.

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മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ റൂൾസ് അന്ന നിയമസഭയിൽ വന്നപ്പോൾ അതിന്റെ പ്രിൻസിപ്പിൾസൊക്കെ അക്സപ്റ്റ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. പക്ഷെ ധനവാന്മാരേയും, ദരിദ്രരേയും തിരിക്കുന്നതു് ആസ്സ്തുയിലെ ഡോക്ടർമാരായിരിയ്ക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് അന്നു തർക്കം നടന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

Mr. President: Therefore it is now open to the hon'ble members to adopt the usual procedure according to the rules to amend these rules.

SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS

1. Rs. 400 under "14—General Administration—8—Town Councils—Allowances"

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 400 under "14—General Administration—8—Town Councils—Allowances". The object of this motion is clearly stated in the notes prepared for the Standing Finance Committee. The budget allotment for the current year is only Rs. 250. Out of this a sum of Rs. 247 and odd has been spent leaving a balance of only Rs. 2—2—0. This amount will not be sufficient for the T. A. of the Special Officer and his staff. The temporary post of the Special Officer and his staff was created towards the close of Edavam 1115 and the actual amount of T. A. required was known only after the preparation of the budget for the current year. Savings are also not available for reappropriation. An additional allotment is therefore required. I request the House may be pleased to grant this.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Government have any intention to make the office of the Special Officer for Town Councils a permanent one?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No. It is only a temporary department, till the thing is put in proper shape or form. If the Special Officer was not appointed the work would have to be entrusted to a Tahsildar, and we thought it would be more economical to appoint a Special Officer.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Now that a few Town Councils have been already started is there any necessity to continue that post?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* As soon as the necessity ceases that post also will cease to exist.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Do Government consider the constitution of more Town Councils?

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